GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2340
ANSWERED ON:31.07.2017
Wildlife and Forest Tourism
Prabakaran Shri K.R.P.;Trivedi Shri Dinesh

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether any scheme has been formulated to ensure that wildlife and forest tourism is sustainable in the country;
(b) if so, the details thereof along with the scope of the same in various States/UTs;
(c) whether any scheme has been put in place to involve local communities as stakeholders in the development of sustainable wildlife and forest tourism;
(d) if so, the details thereof and the funds provided by the Government for promoting sustainable wildlife and forest tourism during the last three years, State/UT-wise;
(e) whether the wildlife tourism is posing threat to wildlife and the welfare of local communities; and
(f) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government to carry it in a systematic and scientific manner?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR TOURISM (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
(DR. MAHESH SHARMA)

(a) to (f): For integrated development of Theme-Based Tourist Circuits in the country, the Ministry of Tourism has launched Swadesh Darshan Scheme in 2014-15. Wildlife Circuit is one of the thirteen thematic circuit identified for development under this scheme. The details of projects sanctioned under the Wildlife Circuit of Swadesh Darshan Scheme is given below:
<pre> (Rs. in Crore)
Sl. No. Name of State Year Project Name Amt. Sanctioned Amt. Released
1. Madhya Pradesh 2015-16 Development of Wildlife Circuit at Panna-Mukundpur-Sanjay-Dubri-Bandhavgarh-Kanha-Mukki-Pench. 92.22 46.11
2. Assam 2015-16 Development of Manas − Probitora − Nameri − Kaziranga − Dibru − Saikhowa. 95.67 19.13
Total 187.89 65.24
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In developing the wildlife circuit, emphasis is on improving the quality of tourist facilities available at the parks, improving connectivity, skill development of the local population and safety and security of tourists.

Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change informs that participation of local communities living in and around the Protected Areas in management of the said areas is encouraged as part of the Eco-Development Activities and that the National Tiger Conservation Authority has issued guidelines for taking up eco-tourism in Tiger Reserves.

It is also further informed that Tourism in Protected Areas is undertaken in accordance with provisions of Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 and activities enshrined in the Management Plans for the Protected Areas.

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